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encyclopaedic lexicography: it is not his purpose to give exhaustive definition nor full historical exposition of the meaning of any term. It is only for method that the essay proceeds by definition; its purpose is to outline as clearly as possible the central problem and import of all metaphysic, and for the accomplishment of this no method is likely to prove so fruitful as the Aristotelian study of concepts. But it must not be understood that there is any endeavor at metaphysical construction. In all ways effort has been directed to the avoidance of this....No final metaphysical solution is possible, because so long as human intelligence broadens metaphysical truth must alter. It is not independent nor static, but exists for knowledge alone."

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THE PSYCHOLOGICAL INDEX, No. 8. A Bibliography of the Literature of Psychology and Cognate Subjects for 1901. Compiled by *Howard C. Warren*, Princeton University, with the co-operation of J. Larguier des Bancels, Paris, Leo Hirschlafl, Berlin, Charles D. Isenberg, New York, and W. H. R. Rivers, Cambridge (Eng.). New York : The Macmillan Company. Pages, viii, 206.

The Psychological Index is now published not only as part of the *Psychological Review*, but also as a bibliographical supplement to Professor Baldwin's *Dictionary of Philosophy and Psychology*. This bibliography of psychological literature includes original publications in all languages, together with translations and new editions in English, French, and German. The many subjects cognate to psychology are catalogued, viz., anatomy and physiology, pathology, anthropology, criminology, general philosophy, etc. Two thousand nine hundred and eighty-five titles of books and articles are listed,—a number from which some conception may be gained of the extent of the annual literature of this department.

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RESEARCHES ON THE RHYTHM OF SPEECH. By *J. E. Wallace Wallin, Ph. D.* Reprinted from Vol. IX. (1901) of the Studies from the Yale Psychological Laboratory. Yale University, New Haven, Conn. 1902. Pp., 142. Price, \$1.00.

Dr. Wallin has presented in this brochure a very painstaking and exhaustive analysis of the rhythm of poetry. He first cursorily reviews the work done by his predecessors in determining experimentally the time relations of speech, and shows that improved methods of speech investigation are imperatively necessary. He adds: "Two types of methods may be used. The former is largely the method which has prevailed up to the present time. The sounds of spoken language have been measured by means of finger beats, currents of air, and non-reproducible sound vibrations. A more direct method consists in measuring directly the sounds recorded in, and reproduced by, a talking machine." The experiments based on these methods were begun in the early summer of 1900 and carried out in the academic year of 1900-1901.

The theoretical and critical burden of his investigation is contained in the concept of the "Centroid." Any portion of speech such as "the cities are full of pride," is physically a vibratory movement of a complicated form of which various portions can be assigned in succession to different sounds, with more or less abrupt changes (glides) between them. This series of sounds represents: "(1) a continuous succession of vocal movements representing work, (2) a continuous vibration of an air particle, (3) a continuous succession of sensations. Both the speaker and the hearer feel the recurrence of points in the succession at which the impression reaches a maximum. These maxima are felt to have their positions determined, not only by the actual maxima of vocal effort and of acoustic impression, but also by the preceding sounds and by the anticipation of following ones. Owing to these circumstances, the maxima as felt may differ more or less from the actual vocal or acoustic maxima. Such a maximum of effect may be called a 'centroid.'"

Considering a poetical line as a certain quantity of speech-sound distributed so as to produce an effect equivalent to that of a certain number of points of emphasis at definite intervals, the location of the point of emphasis becomes the thing to be determined, and it is determined by the strength of the sounds at and around it. This point of emphasis is like the centroid of a system of forces. The centroid is thus not a syllable nor a single sound, but a point in the course of a sound (Scripture). The methods of locating the centroid are then developed, the elements and the essence of the centroid indicated, and the principles applied to various selections from English, Swedish, Persian, and Japanese poetry, with results which will, in all likelihood, stagger poets, and at the precise value of which they will certainly wonder.

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ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR ALLGEMEINE PHYSIOLOGIE. Herausgegeben von Dr. Max Verworn, Professor der Physiologie und Direktor des physiologischen Instituts an der Universität Göttingen. Erster Band. Erstes Heft. Mit 2 Tafeln und 4 Abbildungen im Text. Jena: Verlag von Gustav Fischer. 1902. Pages, 156. Price, per volume, 24 Marks.

Proceeding from the principles which have been laid down by him in his large and well-known work on *General Physiology*, Dr. Max Verworn has established the present *Zeitschrift für allgemeine Physiologie*, for the realisation of the general ideals which should control every department of research and thought. It is designed to be a trysting-place for inquirers in provinces connected with the biological sciences, being devoted to all the phases of that joint research which has to do with the investigation of the most general problems of life, and including the fields lying between physiology and anatomy, physiology and botany, etc. It will contain original researches, reviews, discussions, and similar topics. It will also have an international character. The present number, which is neatly got up, contains besides the introductory remarks by the editor, the following articles: